



PATENT  
8017-1098

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Michihisa FURUKAWA

Conf. 2117

Application No. 10/647,311

Group 3627

Filed August 26, 2003

Examiner L. Champagne

METHOD OF BUYING BACK GOODS THAT BOTH  
IMPROVES EFFICIENCY AND EASES THE BURDEN  
ON USERS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with Rules 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under Rule 1.56, the accompanying document, a copy of which is attached to this statement, is made of record on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

A concise explanation of the relevance of these items is that these references were cited by the Japanese Patent Office in an Official Action. A copy of the Japanese Official Action in which they were cited is attached hereto, with what is believed to be the pertinent portion enclosed in a wavy line. **An English translation of the enclosed portion is also attached hereto.**

Under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a

counterpart foreign application not more than three months  
prior to the filing of this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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RJP/lk

May 4, 2007

Application No.:  
**10/647,311**

Group Art Unit:  
**3627**

[illegible][illegible]

		“PC renewal cash-back campaign between IBM Japan and SoftMap”, [online], February 19, 2002, PCWatch, searched on February 9, 2007, Internet <a href="http://pc.watch.impress.co.jp/docs/2002/0219/ibm.htm">http://pc.watch.impress.co.jp/docs/2002/0219/ibm.htm</a> .

DATE CONSIDERED

\* Abstract provided for the Examiner's convenience